Secrl. II-27—100,000—21-5-48.

Food

(1948) Department.

MS SERIES.

G.O. No. 660

Dated 28-7-48

[Despatch Abstract.]

Food situation - Madras Province - Report for the fortnight ending 30-6-48 - Review - Papers Recorded.

Food Department (C).

Sub: Food situation - Madras Province - Report for the second fortnight of June 1948 - Review.

Ref: From the Board of Revenue (C.S.)L.Dis.No.E.95030/48 dated 4-7-48.

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The report on the food situation in Madras Province for the fortnight ending 30-6-48 at pp. 1-7 c.f. and the enclosures thereto at pp.9-26 may be perused.

2. WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP PROSPECTS: The South West Monsoon was active on the West Coast during the fortnight and the rainfall was very heavy. In the rest of the Province, the rainfall during the fortnight was very heavy (7-3 inches) in the Nilgiris district, heavy (3-6 inches) in the East Godavari District, moderate (1-0 to 2-9 inches) in the districts of Vizagapatam, West Godavari and Krishna, fair (0.5 to 0.9 inches) in the districts of Guntur, Bellary, Nellore, Chittoor and Tirunelveli and light or nil in the other districts.

Cultivation of paddy was held up in the North Arcot district for want of rains and sufficient supply in tanks. Water supply was inadequate also in parts of the districts of Bellary, Anantapur, Cuddaph, Chingleput, South Arcot, Chittoor, North Arcot, Salem, Tiruchirapalli, Tanjore, Madura, Ramnad and Tiruchirapalli, Tanjore, Tirunelveli. Sowings of paddy were proceeding in the districts of Vizagapatam, Krishna, Coimbatore, Tirunelveli, Malabar, South Kanara and the Nilgiris and of dry crops in the districts of Vizagapatam, Bellary and the Nilgiris and in parts of the South Arcot and Tiruchirapalli districts. The standing crops were reported to be generally fair. Harvest of paddy and cholam was proceeding in parts of the Tiruchirapalli district and the outturn was generally fair for paddy and poor to fair for cholam.

3. STOCK AND SUPPLY POSITION: The stock position of foodgrains in the Province was as follows on 26-6-48 when compared with the stock position on 19-6-1948.

Foodgrain.	Stock on 19-6-48.	on 26-6-48.
Rice	3,96,012	3,93,812
Wheat	15,927	25,079
Maida	236	260
Maize	59,998	52,589
Other grains	16,501	15,667

RICE: The total Provincial stock of rice decreased from 3,98,075 tons on 12-6-48 to 3,93,812 tons on 26-6-1948 mainly due to a fall in procurement and an increase in off-take. The stock position in the districts continues to be satisfactory.

An allotment of 18,569 tons of Overseas rice has been made to this Province by the Government of India.

The following quantities were received during the fortnight:

From:

	Tons.
Orissa	2,993
Eastern States	1,220
Overseas	25,805
	30,018

MILLETS AND MAIZE: With the opening of a large number of Relief shops, the demand for supplies of millets and maize and the issues to the relief shops are steadily increasing. Large quotas of maize have been allotted to the needy districts from the Provincial Reserve Stocks at Chromepet and Avadi and they are under deppatch.

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A quantity of 9,000 tons of overseas milo was received at Tuticorin Port on 27-6-48, ex. S.S. "FORT ERULE". This raises the progressive receipts of milo in this Province to 28,927 tons against the total ceiling import quota of 76,000 tons of milo and millets for the Basic Plan for 1948. The Government of India are being moved through the Regional Food Commissioner, Madras, to arrange for diverting the maximum possible shipments of milo, so as to be received in this Province during July 1948, towards the balance quota of about 47,000 tons still due under the basic Plan for 1948.

WHEAT AND WHEAT PRODUCTS: The following quantities of wheat and wheat products were received during the fortnight:--

Wheat:	3,340 tons.
Maida:	2,895 tons.
Semolina:	248 tons.

The import of Semolina is outside the ceiling quota of wheat and wheat products allotted to this Province.

The ceiling quota of wheat and wheat products for the Province for1948 has been fixed at 57,000 tons.

4. PROGRESS OF PROCUREMENT: During the first fortnight of June, 25,580 tons of rice and 89 tons of millets were procured in the surplus districts and in the districts of the Nilgiris and Malabar as against 35,495, tons of rice and 347 tons of millets procured in those districts in the previous fortnight. (Procurement in the other districts has been abolished with effect from 1-6-1948). There was generally a fall in procurement in the districts other than East Godavari, Malabar and the Nilgiris. The Collectors concerned have been instructed to intensify procurement and show better results.

5. The statements relating to the prices of the several food-grains, firewood, salt, oil etc. at various centres of the Province are at pp-9-26 c.f.

The case may be circulated to Hon'ble Minister (Food) Hon'ble Minister (Public Works) and His Excellency.

Sd. x x x
17-7-48.

Minutes of the Hon'ble Ministers.

Private Secretary to the Governor General.
His Excellency has seen thanks.

Sd. x x x
18-7-48.

TO A.S.

The file may now be sent to the Director (Information and Publicity) for perusal and return.

Sd. x x x
20-7-48.

Public Works (Information and Publicity).

Seen. Thanks.

Sd. x x x
21-7-48.

//3.

TO A.S.

Director (Information and Publicity) has seen the case. The papers may now be recorded.

Sd. x x x
23-7-48.

G.O.Ms.No.685. -dated 26-7-48.

Food situation - Madras Province - Report for the fortnight ending 30-6-48 - Review - Papers Recorded.

Sd. x x x
23-7-48.

/True Copy/

R. Thiagarajan 17.12
Office Assistant,
MADRAS RECORD OFFICE.

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